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# The New York Times

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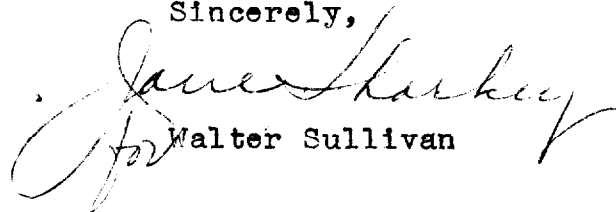
Professor Joshua Lederberg  
Department of Genetics  
Stamford University School of Medicine  
Palo Alto, California 93404

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

Thank you very much for your letter of July 30. I was delighted that you enjoyed the book and was most interested in your comments on the editorial (which I did not write).

We set the letter in type to be published on the editorial page. Then I decided it was of such interest that it should be held as a news story. I had completed the story when a call came in from Carl Sagan who, as usual, was full of new ideas (plus a certain degree of indignation) hence the story has been rewritten and is scheduled for publication this Sunday.

Sincerely,

  
for Walter Sullivan

Mr. Sullivan just left on vacation. This letter is being signed in his absence.

New York Times